

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JACKIE D. MÉNDEZ FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Jackie D. Méndez. Jackie is the founder and editor-in-chief of *Tu Revista Mujer*, Florida's first Spanish, female-focused health magazine. Established in 2009, the publication was created to address the health issues surrounding the Latina community. It is the first of its kind to interview celebrities and leaders of the Hispanic community to advocate for personal care and better quality of life.

Jackie is also one of the founders of *Talleres de Bienvenida*, the informative conferences for newcomers to Central Florida. Jackie is also the current executive director of the Pan American Medical Association of Central Florida—producing events, developing medical directories, and hosting health-minded programming for the community.

Born in Spain and raised in Puerto Rico, her career started with a degree in journalism from the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. She also worked at *Casiano Communications* as a sales manager of *Buena Vida Magazine* and *GTV Magazine*, and as the editor of *Comercio and Produccion* for the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce, before moving to Florida in 2002 with her two daughters. There, she began a career in advertising at *El Nuevo Dia Orlando*, and in 2012, she became the communications director of the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida.

Mrs. Méndez's life's motivation is to serve others through education and awareness on issues of health knowledge. Her philosophy is that knowledge is the primary tool to combat ignorance and leads to valuable new perspectives.

For this and more, we honor Jackie D. Méndez.

ANTHONY JIMENEZ, EAGLE SCOUT

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, in December of 2019, Anthony Jimenez earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He attends Rowan University in the music education program and just completed his first year. Anthony participated in the marching band and was awarded the rookie of the year award and has earned a leadership award every year after that. For Anthony's Eagle Scout project, he started a music program at Daniel's Den Community Center in Vineland, South Jersey. He donated and collected over 20 musical instruments

needed for the project and put in 130 hours of work dedicated to the launching of the music program. Over the course of Anthony's time as a scout, he earned 26 merit badges, and held positions as troop bugler, patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, and senior patrol leader. In addition to all his successes, he is currently teaching eight merit badges to younger boy scouts online. Anthony is an inspiration to his peers and is looked up to by his fellow scouts and I know he will go on to achieve great things. God Bless Anthony and God Bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on September 30, 2021 due to not being physically present in the District of Columbia. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: NO on Roll Call No. 311.

Today I was unable to vote on the Continuing Resolution due to being at an important hearing outside of the District of Columbia on behalf of a highly decorated Marine who is currently confined. The Democrats had a conclusive number of votes to pass the bill in the House of Representatives and my recorded vote of "no" would unfortunately not change the outcome. However, with the liberties of an American patriot and service member, Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Stuart Scheller, hanging in the balance, I came to his assistance to testify in person on his behalf.

When a member of Congress with my prior experience can potentially help someone who has repeatedly risked his life for our nation, it seems I have a duty to fight for the liberty and rights of all American citizens. A weighty decision had to be made, but protecting the legal rights and liberties of Americans, particularly one who has sacrificed so much, was the only choice to make. It is unfortunate that Democrats continue to spend at unsustainable levels and without any appreciation of the fact that their irresponsibility today jeopardizes the freedom of all Americans—those living today as well as those not even born yet.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Ukraine Caucus, I join Liberty lovers around the globe in congratulating Ukraine on its 30 years of restored independence.

Since my first trip to Ukraine in 1973, it has been an honor to watch Ukraine's inspirational

path to Liberty. In the dark days of Soviet-Russian occupied Ukraine, there were very few cars on the street, the buildings were gray, and people lived their lives in the shadow of secret police oppression. Yet, while Ukraine's progress has at times been jagged, even then, I personally witnessed her people's thirst for Liberty, and their desire to live in an open society.

Today's Ukraine is religiously and ethnically diverse, vibrant, and yes, a democracy. Her people have decided to cast off the yoke of Russian oppression. They wish to join the community of democracies, the Euro-Atlantic nations, and importantly NATO.

The U.S. Congress on a bipartisan basis has been the backbone over generations to support these aspirations. Ukraine's success is critical for U.S. national security. Indeed, she is on the scrimmage line for Liberty on the European continent.

The Congressional Ukraine Caucus strongly condemns Russia's ongoing illegal war and occupation of Ukrainian territories. The U.S. House of Representatives voted to increase security assistance by \$25 million for fiscal year 2021. To counter Russia's weaponization of energy against our allies and partners, the House unanimously adopted our bipartisan amendment in the FY22 National Defense Authorization Act to fully sanction the Nord Stream 2 pipeline. The Congress also strongly supports the U.S. pledge for \$1 billion in the Three Seas Fund to strengthen the region's energy resilience.

While our Caucus celebrates Ukraine's 30 years of restored independence, we also commemorate the 80th anniversary and honor the lives lost at the Babyn Yar massacre. We shall never forget the precious lives lost in this atrocity and in the Holocaust. We must work together to uncover historical truth to allow for historical reconciliation and to ensure acts like these never happen again.

In conclusion, our Caucus looks forward to working with freedom defenders around the world to ensure a Ukraine that is democratic, secure, prosperous, and at peace.

Onward Liberty, Onward Ukraine, Slava Ukraini.

HONORING DR. DIANA MEJIA FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Dr. Diana Mejia. Dr. Mejia is a dedicated and passionate advocate against domestic violence. As an activist for Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Advocacy for Change, Dr. Mejia aims to create a highlighted awareness within municipal and government agencies of a need for change in policies and legislation to enhance education and services that protect victims and survivors of violence and sexual abuse.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.